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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

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Sheet	1	of	2	Application Number	10/573948
				Filing Date	05/01/2007
				First Named Inventor	Thomas Nissl
				Art Unit	3738
				Examiner Name	Tiffany P. Shipmon
				Attorney Docket Number	37621/51901

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	1	US-5,156,609	10/20/92	Nakao, et al.	
	2	US-5,749,921	05/12/98	Lenker, et al.	
	3	US-5,776,186	07/07/98	Uflacker	
	4	US-5,897,589	04/27/99	Cottenceau, et al.	
	5	US-5,941,895	08/24/99	Myler, et al.	
	6	US-6,090,129	07/18/00	Ouchi	
	7	US-6,165,209	12/26/06	Patterson, et al.	
	8	US-6,187,016	02/13/01	Hedges, et al.	
	9	US-6,241,757	06/05/01	An, et al.	
	10	US-6,361,540	03/28/02	Gauderer, et al.	
	11	US-6,676,692	01/13/04	Rabkin, et al.	
	12	US-6,679,893	01/20/04	Tran	
	13	US-6,802,846	10/12/04	Hauschild, et al.	
	14	US-6,821,291	11/23/04	Bolea, et al.	
	15	US-7,175,652	Feb-07	Cook, et al.	
	16	US-7,252,680	08/07/07	Freitag	

U.S. PATENT APPLICATION PUBLICATIONS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Publication Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	17	US-2002/0040236	04/04/02	Lau, et al.	
	18	US-2002/0143387	10/03/02	Soetikno, et al.	
	19	US-2003/0149475	08/07/03	Hydoh, et al.	
	20	US-2007/0233230	10/04/07	Nissl, et al.	
	21	US-2007/0276463	11/29/07	Nissl, et al.	
	22	US-2008/0033528	02/07/08	Satasiya, et al.	
	23	US-2008/0140181	06/12/08	Reynolds, et al.	

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				Examiner Name	Tiffany P. Shipmon
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document Number Country Code ² Number ³ Kind Code ⁴ (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
	24	EP 0701800 A1	3/20/1996	C.R. Bard, Inc.		
	25	EP 0857471	8/12/1998	Coloco Surgical Instr Co.		
	26	JP 11-057022	3/2/1999	Saeki Toshio		
	27	WO 03/096935	11/27/2003	Cook Incorporated		
	28	WO 05/079705	9/1/2005	Laboratories Perouse		

NON-PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. For web pages and online documents, include author or site publisher (in CAPS), title of document, web page address (URL), date published (if known), "visited" date, pages.	T ⁶
	29	Advisory Action issued in US Application no. 11/496910 dated 11/18/09.	
	30	Examination Report for EP 04789198 dated 10/25/07.	
	31	International Search Report for PCT/US2005/038519 dated 2/22/06.	
	32	Office Action issued in US Application no. 11/496910 dated 10/15/09.	
	33	Office Action issued in US Application no. 11/496910 dated 3/18/09.	
	34	Restriction Requirement issued in US Application no. 11/496910 dated 2/3/09.	
	35	Office Action dated 06/24/2010 for U.S. Application No. 11/577,859.	
	36	Office Action dated 06/10/2010 for U.S. Application No. 11/496,910.	

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